

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSA-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-02

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R 131715Z NOV 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8752

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4656

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCUSAREUR

CINCLANT

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

S E C R E T USNATO 6307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: USNATO 6289

1. IN COURSE OF 12 NOVEMBER DISCUSSION REPORTED REFTTEL, US DEFENSE ADVISOR (DEGERE) TOLD FRG DEFENSE ADVISOR(B/GEN SCHUNEMANN) THAT HE BELIEVED LACK OF FRG SUPPORT FOR US POSITIONS DURING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE SESSIONS IN BRUSSELS CONTRACTED SIGNIFICANTLY WITH SUBSTANTIAL HARMONY OF BASIC VIEWS APPARENT DURING SCHLESINGER-LEBER MEETINGS IN BONN ON 4-5 NOVEMBER. US DEFAD SAID HE WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO GO TO BONN ON 13 NOVEMBER FOR INFORMAL SESSION WITH ADMIRALS STEINHAUS AND TREBASCH. HE ASKED FRG DEFAD IF HE COULD ARRANGE THIS SESSION, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH WOULD BE AT LEAST TO HELP PROMOTE LESS FRG NEGATIVISM IN BRUSSELS.

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2. LATER ON 12 NOVEMBER, FRG DEFAD RETURNED TO US DEFAD'S OFFICE TO REPORT THAT IN TELECON WITH ADMIRAL STEINHAUS, LATTER HAD INDICATED 13 NOVEMBER SESSION IMPRACTICABLE BECAUSE OF PREVIOUS COMMITMENTS OF BONN OFFICIALS CONCERNED.

FRG DEFAD STAYED ON FOR ADDITIONAL HOUR OF DISCUSSION WITH US DEFAD, SO THAT BY END OF DAY HE HAD SPENT ALMOST FOUR HOURS WITH DEFAD OR DEPUTY DEFAD (BGEN BOWMAN) OR WITH BOTH. DURING LAST HOUR WITH US DEFAD, FRG DEFAD SAID STEINHAUS OPINION EXPRESSED ON PHONE TO HIM WAS THAT ON KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, US AND FRG VIEWS HAD MOVED AND WERE MOVING SOMEWHAT CLOSER TO EACH OTHER, BUT THE SEEKING OF POSSIBLE MIDDLE COURSES SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES WOULD CONTINUE TO BE NECESSARY.

3. US DEFAD SAID PURPOSE OF CURRENT CONSIDERATION OF KEY ELEMENTS WAS TO HIGHLIGHT ALTERNATIVES FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION NEXT MONTH, BUT EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO MODIFY SELECTED LANGUAGE OF US POSITIONS IN NON-SUBSTANTIVE RESPECT (SEE REFTTEL) IF SUCH ACTION WOULD STOP GERMANS HERE FROM THEIR NEGATIVE APPROACH. IN SUM, US DEFAD SAID, FRG SHOULD START STRESSING ITS GENERAL SUPPORT BEFORE WEIGHING IN WITH RESERVATIONS OR QUALIFICATIONS.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE OUTCOME OF EXTENDED MEETINGS WITH FRG DEFAD, PLUS HIS PHONE CALL TO BONN, MAY WELL PRODUCE AN IMPROVEMENT IN NATURE OF FRG INTERVENTIONS DURING FUTURE DISCUSSIONS HERE OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE KEY ELEMENTS. ALSO, IT MAY BE THAT WAY IN WHICH THIS WORKED OUT WAS BETTER THAN US DEFAD TRIP TO BONN WOULD HAVE BEEN.
PEREZ.

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